

**PCT**

**NOTIFICATION OF ELECTION**

(PCT Rule 61.2)

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
United States Patent and Trademark  
Office  
Box PCT  
Washington, D.C.20231  
ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE

in its capacity as elected Office

**Date of mailing (day/month/year)**  
22 March 2000 (22.03.00)

**International application No.**  
PCT/EP99/05326

**Applicant's or agent's file reference**  
DB 757 PCT

**International filing date (day/month/year)**  
16 July 1999 (16.07.99)

**Priority date (day/month/year)**  
21 July 1998 (21.07.98)

**Applicant**

DE BENEDITTIS, Rossella et al

1. The designated Office is hereby notified of its election made:

☒ in the demand filed with the International Preliminary Examining Authority on:  
11 February 2000 (11.02.00)

☐ in a notice effecting later election filed with the International Bureau on:

2. The election ☒ was  
☐ was not

made before the expiration of 19 months from the priority date or, where Rule 32 applies, within the time limit under Rule 32.2(b).

The International Bureau of WIPO  
34, chemin des Colombettes  
1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland

Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35

Authorized officer

A. Karkachi

Telephone No.: (41-22) 338.83.38

PCT

NOTIFICATION OF THE RECORDING  
OF A CHANGE

(PCT Rule 92bis.1 and  
Administrative Instructions, Section 422)

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To:

GIUSTINI, Delio  
Siemens Information and  
Communication Networks S.p.A.  
Cascina Castelletto  
I-20019 Settimo Milanese  
ITALIE

Date of mailing (day/month/year) 22 March 2000 (22.03.00)	
Applicant's or agent's file reference DB 757 PCT	IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION
International application No. PCT/EP99/05326	International filing date (day/month/year) 16 July 1999 (16.07.99)

1. The following indications appeared on record concerning: <input type="checkbox"/> the applicant <input type="checkbox"/> the inventor <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the agent <input type="checkbox"/> the common representative		
Name and Address GIUSTINI, Delio Italtel Spa Cascina Castelletto I-20019 Settimo Milanese Italy	State of Nationality	State of Residence
	Telephone No. 39 02 43887701	
	Facsimile No. 39 02 43887703	
	Teleprinter No.	
2. The International Bureau hereby notifies the applicant that the following change has been recorded concerning: <input type="checkbox"/> the person <input type="checkbox"/> the name <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the address <input type="checkbox"/> the nationality <input type="checkbox"/> the residence		
Name and Address GIUSTINI, Delio Siemens Information and Communication Networks S.p.A. Cascina Castelletto I-20019 Settimo Milanese Italy	State of Nationality	State of Residence
	Telephone No. 39 02 43887701	
	Facsimile No. 39 02 43887703	
	Teleprinter No.	
3. Further observations, if necessary: <b>The agent's new address on the Demand has been considered as a change under Rule 92bis. In case of disagreement, the International Bureau should be notified immediately.</b>		
4. A copy of this notification has been sent to: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the receiving Office <input type="checkbox"/> the designated Offices concerned <input type="checkbox"/> the International Searching Authority <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the elected Offices concerned <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the International Preliminary Examining Authority <input type="checkbox"/> other:		

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35	Authorized officer A. Karkachi Telephone No.: (41-22) 338.83.38
---	---

## TENT COOPERATION TRE Y

PCT

NOTIFICATION OF THE RECORDING  
OF A CHANGE(PCT Rule 92bis.1 and  
Administrative Instructions, Section 422)

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To:

GIUSTINI, Delio  
Siemens Information and  
Communication Networks S.p.A.  
Cascina Castelletto  
I-20019 Settimo Milanese  
ITALIE

Date of mailing (day/month/year) 06 November 2000 (06.11.00)	<b>IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION</b>
Applicant's or agent's file reference DB 757 PCT	
International application No. PCT/EP99/05326	International filing date (day/month/year) 16 July 1999 (16.07.99)

1. The following indications appeared on record concerning:		
<input type="checkbox"/> the applicant	<input type="checkbox"/> the inventor	<input type="checkbox"/> the agent <input type="checkbox"/> the common representative
Name and Address	State of Nationality	State of Residence
	Telephone No.	
	Facsimile No.	
	Teleprinter No.	
2. The International Bureau hereby notifies the applicant that the following change has been recorded concerning:		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the person	<input type="checkbox"/> the name	<input type="checkbox"/> the address <input type="checkbox"/> the nationality <input type="checkbox"/> the residence
Name and Address SIEMENS INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION NETWORKS S.P.A. Viale Piero e Alberto Pirelli, 10 I-20126 Milano Italy	State of Nationality IT	State of Residence IT
	Telephone No.	
	Facsimile No.	
	Teleprinter No.	
3. Further observations, if necessary: <b>Additional applicant for all designated States except US.</b>		
4. A copy of this notification has been sent to:		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the receiving Office	<input type="checkbox"/> the designated Offices concerned	
<input type="checkbox"/> the International Searching Authority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the elected Offices concerned	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the International Preliminary Examining Authority	<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland	Authorized officer  C. Cupello
Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35	Telephone No.: (41-22) 338.83.38

## TENT COOPERATION TRE Y

PCT

NOTIFICATION OF THE RECORDING  
OF A CHANGE(PCT Rule 92bis.1 and  
Administrative Instructions, Section 422)

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To:

GIUSTINI, Delio  
Siemens Information and  
Communication Networks S.p.A.  
Cascina Castelletto  
I-20019 Settimo Milanese  
ITALIE

Date of mailing (day/month/year) 12 January 2001 (12.01.01)	<b>IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION</b>
Applicant's or agent's file reference DB 757 PCT	
International application No. PCT/EP99/05326	International filing date (day/month/year) 16 July 1999 (16.07.99)

1. The following indications appeared on record concerning:		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the applicant	<input type="checkbox"/> the inventor	<input type="checkbox"/> the agent <input type="checkbox"/> the common representative
Name and Address ITALTEL SPA Via A. di Tocqueville, 13 I-20154 Milano Italy	State of Nationality IT	State of Residence IT
	Telephone No.	
	Facsimile No.	
	Teleprinter No.	
2. The International Bureau hereby notifies the applicant that the following change has been recorded concerning:		
<input type="checkbox"/> the person	<input type="checkbox"/> the name	<input type="checkbox"/> the address <input type="checkbox"/> the nationality <input type="checkbox"/> the residence
Name and Address -----	State of Nationality	State of Residence
	Telephone No.	
	Facsimile No.	
	Teleprinter No.	
3. Further observations, if necessary: <b>The above applicant has been deleted from the records.</b>		
4. A copy of this notification has been sent to:		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the receiving Office	<input type="checkbox"/> the designated Offices concerned	
<input type="checkbox"/> the International Searching Authority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the elected Offices concerned	
<input type="checkbox"/> the International Preliminary Examining Authority	<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland	Authorized officer  G. Bähr
Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35	Telephone No.: (41-22) 338.83.38

# PCT

## REQUEST

The undersigned requests that the present international application be processed according to the Patent Cooperation Treaty.

For receiving Office use only

**PCT/EP 99 / 05 3 2 6**

International Application No.

**16 JUL 1999**

**16. 07. 1999**

International Filing Date

EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE  
PCT INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION

Name of receiving Office and "PCT International Application"

Applicant's or agent's file reference  
(if desired) (12 characters maximum) **DB 757 PCT**

<b>Box No. I TITLE OF INVENTION</b>	
Method and device for the antenna selection in a digital telecommunication system.	
<b>Box No. II APPLICANT</b>	
Name and address: (Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country. The country of the address indicated in this Box is the applicant's State (that is, country) of residence if no State of residence is indicated below.)	
ITALTEL SPA Via A. di Tocqueville, 13 20154 MILANO ITALY	<input type="checkbox"/> This person is also inventor.
	Telephone No. +39.02.43887701
	Facsimile No. +39.02.43887703
	Teleprinter No. 314840 SITELE I
State (that is, country) of nationality: IT	State (that is, country) of residence: IT
This person is applicant for the purposes of: <input type="checkbox"/> all designated States <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> all designated States except the United States of America <input type="checkbox"/> the United States of America only <input type="checkbox"/> the States indicated in the Supplemental Box	
<b>Box No. III FURTHER APPLICANT(S) AND/OR (FURTHER) INVENTOR(S)</b>	
Name and address: (Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country. The country of the address indicated in this Box is the applicant's State (that is, country) of residence if no State of residence is indicated below.)	
DE BENEDITTIS ROSSELLA Via delle Margherite, 9 20020 Barbaiana di Lainate MI Italy	This person is: <input type="checkbox"/> applicant only <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> applicant and inventor <input type="checkbox"/> inventor only (If this check-box is marked, do not fill in below.)
State (that is, country) of nationality: IT	State (that is, country) of residence: IT
This person is applicant for the purposes of: <input type="checkbox"/> all designated States <input type="checkbox"/> all designated States except the United States of America <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the United States of America only <input type="checkbox"/> the States indicated in the Supplemental Box	
<input type="checkbox"/> Further applicants and/or (further) inventors are indicated on a continuation sheet.	
<b>Box No. IV AGENT OR COMMON REPRESENTATIVE; OR ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE</b>	
The person identified below is hereby/has been appointed to act on behalf of the applicant(s) before the competent International Authorities as: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agent <input type="checkbox"/> common representative	
Name and address: (Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country.)	
GIUSTINI DELIO italtel spa Cascina Castelletto 20019 SETTIMO MILANESE Italy	Telephone No. +39.02.43887701
	Facsimile No. +39.02.43887703
	Teleprinter No. 314840 SITELE I
<input type="checkbox"/> Address for correspondence: Mark this check-box where no agent or common representative is/has been appointed and the space above is used instead to indicate a special address to which correspondence should be sent.	

## Continuation of Box No. III FURTHER APPLICANTS AND/OR (FURTHER) INVENTORS

*If none of the following sub-boxes is used, this sheet should not be included in the request.*

Name and address: (Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country. The country of the address indicated in this Box is the applicant's State (that is, country) of residence if no State of residence is indicated below.)

ROSINA GIANCARLO  
Cascina Legoratta  
20018 Sedriano MI  
Italy

This person is:

- ☐ applicant only  
☒ applicant and inventor  
☐ inventor only (If this check-box is marked, do not fill in below.)

State (that is, country) of nationality:

IT

State (that is, country) of residence:

IT

This person is applicant for the purposes of:

- ☐ all designated States ☐ all designated States except the United States of America ☒ the United States of America only ☐ the States indicated in the Supplemental Box

Name and address: (Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country. The country of the address indicated in this Box is the applicant's State (that is, country) of residence if no State of residence is indicated below.)

BETTI ALESSANDRO  
Via Rosetani, 24  
62100 MACERATA  
Italy

This person is:

- ☐ applicant only  
☒ applicant and inventor  
☐ inventor only (If this check-box is marked, do not fill in below.)

State (that is, country) of nationality:

IT

State (that is, country) of residence:

IT

This person is applicant for the purposes of:

- ☐ all designated States ☐ all designated States except the United States of America ☒ the United States of America only ☐ the States indicated in the Supplemental Box

Name and address: (Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country. The country of the address indicated in this Box is the applicant's State (that is, country) of residence if no State of residence is indicated below.)

SALTINI GIORGIO  
Via Dario Niccodemi, 1  
20156 MILANO  
Italy

This person is:

- ☐ applicant only  
☒ applicant and inventor  
☐ inventor only (If this check-box is marked, do not fill in below.)

State (that is, country) of nationality:

IT

State (that is, country) of residence:

IT

This person is applicant for the purposes of:

- ☐ all designated States ☐ all designated States except the United States of America ☒ the United States of America only ☐ the States indicated in the Supplemental Box

Name and address: (Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country. The country of the address indicated in this Box is the applicant's State (that is, country) of residence if no State of residence is indicated below.)

This person is:

- ☐ applicant only  
☐ applicant and inventor  
☐ inventor only (If this check-box is marked, do not fill in below.)

State (that is, country) of nationality:

State (that is, country) of residence:

This person is applicant for the purposes of:

- ☐ all designated States ☐ all designated States except the United States of America ☐ the United States of America only ☐ the States indicated in the Supplemental Box

☐ Further applicants and/or (further) inventors are indicated on another continuation sheet.

**Box No.V DESIGNATION OF STATES**

The following designations are hereby made under Rule 4.9(a) (mark the applicable check-boxes; at least one must be marked):

**Regional Patent**

- ☐ **AP ARIPO Patent:** GH Ghana, GM Gambia, KE Kenya, LS Lesotho, MW Malawi, SD Sudan, SZ Swaziland, UG Uganda, ZW Zimbabwe, and any other State which is a Contracting State of the Harare Protocol and of the PCT
- ☐ **EA Eurasian Patent:** AM Armenia, AZ Azerbaijan, BY Belarus, KG Kyrgyzstan, KZ Kazakhstan, MD Republic of Moldova, RU Russian Federation, TJ Tajikistan, TM Turkmenistan, and any other State which is a Contracting State of the Eurasian Patent Convention and of the PCT
- ☒ **EP European Patent:** AT Austria, BE Belgium, CH and LI Switzerland and Liechtenstein, CY Cyprus, DE Germany, DK Denmark, ES Spain, FI Finland, FR France, GB United Kingdom, GR Greece, IE Ireland, IT Italy, LU Luxembourg, MC Monaco, NL Netherlands, PT Portugal, SE Sweden, and any other State which is a Contracting State of the European Patent Convention and of the PCT
- ☐ **OA OAPI Patent:** BF Burkina Faso, BJ Benin, CF Central African Republic, CG Congo, CI Côte d'Ivoire, CM Cameroon, GA Gabon, GN Guinea, GW Guinea-Bissau, ML Mali, MR Mauritania, NE Niger, SN Senegal, TD Chad, TG Togo, and any other State which is a member State of OAPI and a Contracting State of the PCT (if other kind of protection or treatment desired, specify on dotted line)

**National Patent** (if other kind of protection or treatment desired, specify on dotted line):


- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> AL Albania                               | <input type="checkbox"/> LS Lesotho                                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> AM Armenia                               | <input type="checkbox"/> LT Lithuania                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> AT Austria                               | <input type="checkbox"/> LU Luxembourg                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> AU Australia                             | <input type="checkbox"/> LV Latvia                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> AZ Azerbaijan                            | <input type="checkbox"/> MD Republic of Moldova                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BA Bosnia and Herzegovina                | <input type="checkbox"/> MG Madagascar                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BB Barbados                              | <input type="checkbox"/> MK The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BG Bulgaria                              |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BR Brazil                                | <input type="checkbox"/> MN Mongolia                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BY Belarus                               | <input type="checkbox"/> MW Malawi                                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CA Canada                     | <input type="checkbox"/> MX Mexico                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CH and LI Switzerland and Liechtenstein  | <input type="checkbox"/> NO Norway                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CN China                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> NZ New Zealand                               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CU Cuba                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> PL Poland                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CZ Czech Republic                        | <input type="checkbox"/> PT Portugal                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DE Germany                               | <input type="checkbox"/> RO Romania                                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DK Denmark                               | <input type="checkbox"/> RU Russian Federation                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> EE Estonia                               | <input type="checkbox"/> SD Sudan                                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ES Spain                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> SE Sweden                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FI Finland                               | <input type="checkbox"/> SG Singapore                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GB United Kingdom                        | <input type="checkbox"/> SI Slovenia                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GD Grenada                               | <input type="checkbox"/> SK Slovakia                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GE Georgia                               | <input type="checkbox"/> SL Sierra Leone                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GH Ghana                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> TJ Tajikistan                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GM Gambia                                | <input type="checkbox"/> TM Turkmenistan                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> HR Croatia                               | <input type="checkbox"/> TR Turkey                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> HU Hungary                               | <input type="checkbox"/> TT Trinidad and Tobago                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ID Indonesia                             | <input type="checkbox"/> UA Ukraine                                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> IL Israel                                | <input type="checkbox"/> UG Uganda                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> IN India                                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> US United States of America       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> IS Iceland                               |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> JP Japan                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> UZ Uzbekistan                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> KE Kenya                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> VN Viet Nam                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> KG Kyrgyzstan                            | <input type="checkbox"/> YU Yugoslavia                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> KP Democratic People's Republic of Korea | <input type="checkbox"/> ZW Zimbabwe                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> KR Republic of Korea                     |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> KZ Kazakhstan                            |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> LC Saint Lucia                           |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> LK Sri Lanka                             |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> LR Liberia                               |   |

Check-boxes reserved for designating States (for the purposes of a national patent) which have become party to the PCT after issuance of this sheet:

- ☐ .....
- ☐ .....
- ☐ .....

**Precautionary Designation Statement:** In addition to the designations made above, the applicant also makes under Rule 4.9(b) all other designations which would be permitted under the PCT except any designation(s) indicated in the Supplemental Box as being excluded from the scope of this statement. The applicant declares that those additional designations are subject to confirmation and that any designation which is not confirmed before the expiration of 15 months from the priority date is to be regarded as withdrawn by the applicant at the expiration of that time limit. (Confirmation of a designation consists of the filing of a notice specifying that designation and the payment of the designation and confirmation fees. Confirmation must reach the receiving Office within the 15-month time limit.)

Sheet No. 4

<b>Box No. VI PRIORITY CLAIM</b>					<input type="checkbox"/> Further priority claims are indicated in the Supplemental Box.
Filing date of earlier application (day/month/year)	Number of earlier application	Where earlier application is:			
		national application: country	regional application: * regional Office	international application: receiving Office	
item (1) 21 JUL 1998 (21.07.1998)	MI98A 001674	ITALY			
item (2)					
item (3)					
<input type="checkbox"/> The receiving Office is requested to prepare and transmit to the International Bureau a certified copy of the earlier application(s) (only if the earlier application was filed with the Office which for the purposes of the present international application is the receiving Office) identified above as item(s):					
<small>* Where the earlier application is an ARIPO application, it is mandatory to indicate in the Supplemental Box at least one country party to the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property for which that earlier application was filed (Rule 4.10(b)(ii)). See Supplemental Box.</small>					
<b>Box No. VII INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY</b>					
<b>Choice of International Searching Authority (ISA)</b> <small>(if two or more International Searching Authorities are competent to carry out the international search, indicate the Authority chosen; the two-letter code may be used):</small>		<b>Request to use results of earlier search; reference to that search</b> (if an earlier search has been carried out by or requested from the International Searching Authority):			
ISA /		Date (day/month/year)	Number	Country (or regional Office)	
<b>Box No. VIII CHECK LIST; LANGUAGE OF FILING</b>					
This international application contains the following number of sheets: request : 04 description (excluding sequence listing part) : 10 claims : 03 abstract : 01 drawings : 03 sequence listing part of description : Total number of sheets : 21		This international application is accompanied by the item(s) marked below: 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fee calculation sheet 2. <input type="checkbox"/> separate signed power of attorney 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> copy of general power of attorney; reference number, if any: 25928 4. <input type="checkbox"/> statement explaining lack of signature 5. <input type="checkbox"/> priority document(s) identified in Box No. VI as item(s): 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> translation of international application into (language): ENGLISH 7. <input type="checkbox"/> separate indications concerning deposited microorganism or other biological material 8. <input type="checkbox"/> nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence listing in computer readable form 9. <input type="checkbox"/> other (specify):			
Figure of the drawings which should accompany the abstract: 4		Language of filing of the international application: ENGLISH			
<b>Box No. IX SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT OR AGENT</b>					
Next to each signature, indicate the name of the person signing and the capacity in which the person signs (if such capacity is not obvious from reading the request). Milan, 16 July 1999 <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 20px;">   <b>GIUSTINI DELIO</b>          G.A. 25928       </div>					

For receiving Office use only		2. Drawings: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> received: <input type="checkbox"/> not received:
1. Date of actual receipt of the purported international application:	16 JUL 1999 (16.07.1999)	
3. Corrected date of actual receipt due to later but timely received papers or drawings completing the purported international application:		
4. Date of timely receipt of the required corrections under PCT Article 11(2):		
5. International Searching Authority (if two or more are competent): ISA /	6. <input type="checkbox"/> Transmittal of search copy delayed until search fee is paid.	

Date of receipt of the record copy by the International Bureau:	For International Bureau use only
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## PCT

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference <b>DB 757 PCT</b>	<b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b> see Notification of Transmittal of International Search Report (Form PCT/ISA/220) as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.	
International application No. <b>PCT/EP 99/ 05326</b>	International filing date (day/month/year) <b>16/07/1999</b>	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) <b>21/07/1998</b>
Applicant <b>ITALTEL SPA ET AL.</b>		

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 3 sheets.



It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

## 1. Basis of the report

- a. With regard to the **language**, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.



the international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

- b. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international search was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:



contained in the international application in written form.



filed together with the international application in computer readable form.



furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.



furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.



the statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.



the statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished

2. ☐ **Certain claims were found unsearchable** (See Box I).

3. ☐ **Unity of invention is lacking** (see Box II).

4. With regard to the **title**,



the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.



the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the **abstract**,



the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.



the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box III. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. The figure of the **drawings** to be published with the abstract is Figure No.



as suggested by the applicant.



because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.



because this figure better characterizes the invention.

4



None of the figures.

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No.

PCT/EP 99/05326

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 H04B7/08 H0407/38

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 H04B H04Q

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	WO 96 08089 A (NOKIA TELECOMMUNICATIONS OY ;MOGENSEN PREBEN (DK)) 14 March 1996 (1996-03-14) page 3, line 11 -page 4, line 4 page 5, line 1 - line 3 page 5, line 21 - line 27 page 6, line 14 - line 25 ---	1,10
A	US 5 459 873 A (MOORE MORRIS ET AL) 17 October 1995 (1995-10-17) column 2, line 24 - line 26 column 2, line 36 - line 39 column 3, line 44 - line 56 column 4, line 12 - line 21 claims 1-3 claim 6 figure 4 --- -/--	1,10



Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.



Patent family members are listed in annex.

\* Special categories of cited documents :

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

"&amp;" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

4 November 1999

Date of mailing of the international search report

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## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/EP 99/05326

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	<p>SAFAVI S ET AL: "PREDETECTION QUALITY DIVERSITY SCHEME FOR DECT OUTDOOR APPLICATIONS" ELECTRONICS LETTERS, vol. 32, no. 11, 23 May 1996 (1996-05-23), pages 966-968, XP000599112 ISSN: 0013-5194 page 967, left-hand column, line 1 - line 5 page 967, left-hand column, line 27 - line 41 page 967, right-hand column, line 11 -page 968, left-hand column, line 4 figure 1</p> <p>-----</p>	1,10

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/EP 99/05326

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
WO 9608089	A	14-03-1996	AU 3347495 A	27-03-1996
US 5459873	A	17-10-1995	NONE	

REC'D 24 OCT 2000

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## INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

3

Applicant's or agent's file reference DB 757 PCT	<b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b> See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/EP99/05326	International filing date (day/month/year) 16/07/1999	Priority date (day/month/year) 21/07/1998
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC H04B7/08		
Applicant ITALTEL SPA ET AL.		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.



2. This REPORT consists of a total of 5 sheets, including this cover sheet.

- ☒ This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e. sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of 13 sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- I ☒ Basis of the report
- II ☐ Priority
- III ☐ Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- IV ☐ Lack of unity of invention
- V ☒ Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI ☐ Certain documents cited
- VII ☒ Certain defects in the international application
- VIII ☒ Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand  11/02/2000	Date of completion of this report  20. 10. 00
Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:  European Patent Office D-80298 Munich Tel. +49 89 2399 - 0 Tx: 523656 epmu d Fax: +49 89 2399 - 4465	Authorized officer  Giglietto, M  Telephone No. +49 89 2399 8214 

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY  
EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No. PCT/EP99/05326

**I. Basis of the report**

1. This report has been drawn on the basis of (*substitute sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to the report since they do not contain amendments.*):

**Description, pages:**

1-10                      as received on                      17/07/2000    with letter of                      12/07/2000

**Claims, No.:**

1-10                      as received on                      17/07/2000    with letter of                      12/07/2000

**Drawings, sheets:**

1/3-3/3                      as originally filed

2. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description,              pages:  
☐ the claims,                      Nos.:  
☐ the drawings,                      sheets:

3. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed (Rule 70.2(c)):

4. Additional observations, if necessary:

# INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No. PCT/EP99/05326

## V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

### 1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes:	Claims	1-10
	No:	Claims	
Inventive step (IS)	Yes:	Claims	1-10
	No:	Claims	
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes:	Claims	1-10
	No:	Claims	

### 2. Citations and explanations

**see separate sheet**

## VII. Certain defects in the international application

The following defects in the form or contents of the international application have been noted:

**see separate sheet**

## VIII. Certain observations on the international application

The following observations on the clarity of the claims, description, and drawings or on the question whether the claims are fully supported by the description, are made:

**see separate sheet**

**Re Item V**

**Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

1. Citations:

D1: 'PREDETECTION QUALITY DIVERSITY SCHEME FOR DECT OUTDOOR APPLICATIONS' ELECTRONICS LETTERS, vol. 32, no. 11, 23 May 1996 (1996-05-23), pages 966-968, ISSN: 0013-5194

2. The application relates to a method for performing an antenna selection in a TDMA mobile radio system and particularly in a DECT system.

2.1 The closest prior-art is document D1 which shows a method for antenna selection in a DECT system comprising the steps of performing RSSI measurements during a preamble and of performing instantaneous power correlation measurements (R0 and R1). The drawback is that the measurement is limited to the preamble interval; further measurement on the data bits would cause errors on the received data.

3. Object of the present invention is to provide an improved method that overcomes the drawbacks of the above mentioned prior-art.

4. A method is proposed in claim 1 comprising inter-alia the steps of detecting an unsuccessful correlation operation on the preamble, performing a RSSI measurement on the antennas for a number K of measuring cycles, determining whether the power variability of each antenna during a time slot period is included in first range (stationary slot conditions) and verifying if the power variability among the different antennas is included in a second range.  
The proposed method improves the prior-art methods especially in the antenna selection of a sectorial array.

5. These features of independent claim 1 are not known from any of the available prior-art documents nor are they rendered obvious thereby:



**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY  
EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET**

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International application No. PCT/EP99/05326

D1: no power variation measurement is disclosed (see par. 2.1 above). No first and second ranges.

Claim 10 has been understood as relating to a device comprising means for performing the steps of the method of claim 1 (see section VIII).

Therefore, the subject-matter of claims 1 and 10 meets the requirements of Art. 33(2) and (3) PCT.

The dependent claims add further features to the independent claims and thus also relate to novel and inventive subject-matter.

**Re Item VII**

**Certain defects in the international application**

1. A document reflecting the prior art described on pages 2-5, is not identified in the description (Rule 5.1(a)(ii) PCT).
2. At page 5 of the description, the reference number XP.. of D1 should have been deleted since it is not public (for internal use at the EPO only).

**Re Item VIII**

**Certain observations on the international application**

1. Claim 10 should have been reworded to clarify that the claimed device is characterized in that it comprises means for performing the steps of the method of claim 1.

## **"Method and Device for the Antenna Selection in a Digital Telecommunication System"**

### **5 Technical Field**

The present invention relates to digital telecommunication systems according to Time Division Multiple Access (TDMA), and in particular, but not exclusively, relates to systems operating according the DECT standard (Digital Enhanced Cordless Telecommunications).

10 More precisely, the present invention relates to a method and a device for the selection of an antenna used in the fixed radio station of such system.

In the following description reference will be made in particular to a DECT system, without that this should be limited thereto. The invention can be generally applied in systems where the connection between two transceiver units (a radiomobile or portable unit or PP (Portable Part according to the DECT terminology) and a fixed radio station or RFP (Radio Fixed Part) is realized.

15 As already known, the DECT system includes a plurality of fixed radio stations distributed in a way to cover the interested areas and controlled by a centralised unit (CCFP, Central Control Fixed Part), and connected to a switching network which may be the public one of the private type (PABX), and of portable units linking up via radio with the fixed radio stations, and being able to communicate with each other and with others fixed users connected to the telephone network. The links may be of the voice type or they may enable the exchange of data occupying the equivalent of one or more voice "channels".

25 At first, an exemplary DECT network architecture is schematically illustrated in Fig. 1.

It comprises groupings of  $h$  (in the example of the figure  $h = 4$ ) fixed radio stations RFP (Radio Fixed Part) preferably connected to coppers (in the example 3 coppers) set up by connection or dorsal lines  $L$  through drop/insert devices  $DI$ . Without departing from the scope of the present invention, it turns obviously out to be possible to connect in a star-shaped way each RFP to the CCFP eliminating the aforesaid connection lines, and therefore obviously also the Drop/Insert devices  $DI$ .

30 Each RFP can manage via radio a certain number of PPs, which generally are mobile.

The coppers end up at a TRAnScoder unit TRAS, and the latter is for example connected to the public network PSTN (Public Switching Telephone Network) through a Central Control Fixed Part (CCFP) associated to a switching network or a dedicated switching module MEP.

- 5 Regarding the vocal signals, digital 64 Kbit/s channels typically set up the interface between the CCFP and the accessed network. To the CCFP unit a set of transcoders TRAS is associated providing for the conversion of the PCM codification (Pulse Code Modulation) on 8 bits used at the PSTN side into an ADPCM (Adaptive Differential Pulse Code Modulation) codification on four bits used at the DECT side. In this way two  
10 32 Kbit/s channels can be mapped onto each 64 Kbit/s channel.

The 2,048 Mbit/s (bi-directional) connection link connecting the CCFP to the different RFPs supports therefore 48 voice channels plus a predetermined number of synchronisation and signalling channels.

- The area covered by a fixed radio station or cell is generally rather reduced, arriving  
15 also to a radio coverage radius of tens or hundreds of metres. Typical applications of the personal telephony systems can be found in industrial plants where they may substitute the installation of a cabled network, in shopping centres or urban centres where they may advantageously substitute public telephone boxes and so on.

- The telecommunication network for personal telephony is of the digital type. The  
20 radio access technology is of the type FDMA (Frequency Division Multiple Access) - TDMA (Time Division Multiple Access) - TDD (Time Division Duplex).

- The system is of the TDD type as the transmission and reception direction are time divided. More precisely, as illustrated with reference to Fig. 2, the time frame interval of 10 milliseconds is divided into two halves: usually during the first 5 ms (i.e. in the first  
25 half frame) the fixed radio station transmits and the portables receive, and in the following 5 ms (i.e. in the second half frame) the contrary happens. Each half frame is set up by 12 time channels or time slots, hereafter for the sake of brevity also referred to as "slot", (from which it comes that DECT is a TDMA system, set up by 420 (or in some cases by 424) bits. The slots are transmitted or received using 10 (or more)  
30 different frequencies (from where it results that DECT is an FDMA system as well, which allows to provide to the system up to 120 (or more) radio channels (where a radio channel is identified by the pair (time slot + frequency).

The DECT multiframe is illustrated in Fig.3 and has a duration of 160 ms, so that it includes 16 frames of 10 msec each as described in Fig. 2

For further details on the DECT system please refer to the specifications established by the European Telecommunications Standards Institute, briefly ETSI (Ref. EN 300 175 specification).

5 In a DECT system the fixed radio station or RFP has an antenna system which may have different configurations:

- N antennas (with N equal to at least 2) for management in space diversity and/or polarisation of the received signal;
- a set of sectorial antennas, that is a system in which a plurality of antennas is connected to each RFP where every antenna of the set lightens just a portion (or  
10 sector) of the entire cell or of the RFP coverage area (usually trisection antennas are defined which implies therefore the use of antennas with a coverage angle of 120°);
- a set of phased antennas suitable to set up a radiation diagram with variable direction and gain.

15 Moreover the RFP includes a selection device or appliance among the antennas enabling the selection of the most suitable one that is that antenna which assures the better quality for the detected signal.

In fact the transmitted signal, especially in an urban environment, may be affected by the so-called fading phenomenon constituted by amplitude and phase variations of  
20 the electromagnetic field or of the power of the detected signal due to changeable propagation conditions. Because of such a phenomenon, in a predetermined instant the signal can be received with major intensity from a predetermined antenna (or from a predetermined first group of antennas) while in a following instant this signal can be received with major intensity from a second antenna (or from another predetermined  
25 second group of antennas).

Therefore mainly due to this phenomenon, it is necessary to choose time by time the antenna (or the antennas group) supplying the best signal.

#### **Background Art**

According to the known art the antenna selection appliance is able to manage an  
30 antenna switching according to two or more methods.

In particular the switching may occur based on a switching method, called "time switch diversity" or it can be based on a switching method called "instant diversity".

The switching method "time switch diversity" is based on the concept for which, in case the reception of a signal from an antenna (or antenna group) has to be considered

failed (according to a preset failure criterion), then in the next received frame a different antenna (or antenna group) is selected at the RFP (see also Fig. 2). The predetermined failure criterion may be of the proprietary type and could be based for example on the estimation of the received field strength or RSSI (Received Signal Strength Indicator) or, more generally on the estimation of the perceived signal quality.

This switching method "time switch diversity" presents the disadvantage that reaction can be slow in respect to the aforesaid fading phenomenon that should be hindered.

The already known switching method named "instant diversity" is instead realised by a fast sampler able to carry out an RSSI measurement in a short time period equal to 2-3  $\mu$ s with the possibility to switch the antenna in a comparable amount of time. For example, always according to the present state of the art it is possible to sample a signal at the beginning of the slot carrying out a measurement on the antenna 1 for about 3  $\mu$ s, to change the antenna in a very short time, equal to about 1 - 2  $\mu$ s and then sample the received signal on the other antenna.

The "instant diversity" switching method has the advantage compared to "Time switch diversity" method that makes it possible to understand during the first 10  $\mu$ s which is the best antenna and which will be selected to detect the remaining part of the signal.

However it is necessary to note that the "instant diversity" method presents certain critical aspects from the implementation point of view, because such operations are carried out at the beginning of the slot, sacrificing a few of those bits (i.e. the preamble bits) useful for the timing reconstruction and which do not bring any user data. On the other hand it cannot be carried out during the slot, because the antenna switching introduces a discontinuity in the demodulation of the slot which would make lose part of its informative content.

There has also been the proposal to use an extended preamble consisting in the repetition, at the beginning of the slot, of the preamble field in order to dedicate the first part of this field to the selection of the antenna and the second part to the specific function for which such a preamble has been foreseen by ETSI standard (like f.i. the timing reconstruction and alignment between the two communicating radio transceivers. However it is necessary to point out that if such a solution to extend preamble field makes it possible to solve the above-mentioned problems, it also defines the turning up of a further drawback consisting in the shortening of the inter slot

guard periods, which means major interference among DECT systems which are not synchronised each other (e.g. because they do not refer to the same operator) and the shortening of the propagation range.

5 A combination of "instant diversity" and preamble-based antenna selection technique is disclosed in the paper "Predetection quality diversity scheme for DECT outdoor applications S. Safavi and L.B. Lopes, ELECTRONICS LETTERS, vol.32, no. 11, 23 May 1996 (1996-05-23), pages 966-968, XP000599112 ISSN: 0013-5194.

10 This additional antenna selection technique has therefore the drawbacks above mentioned in connection with said instant diversity technique and in connection with said extended preamble technique. In the case of a system that foresees sectorial antennas it is also known to carry out the selection of antennas in such array. More precisely, at the moment when the connection on the antenna in use turns out to be degraded, a switching operation can be carried out on other antennas to see if the connection quality improved.

15 But such solution includes however the drawback that the choice requires to realise an RSSI measuring on a slot for each antenna of the array, and therefore it may last rather a lot of slots; too many bursts could be sacrificed because of having tried some antennas not suitable for this link. Moreover the measurements are heterogeneous with each other as they are carried out at different instants.

20 Furthermore it is necessary to point out that, as there is the possibility to carry out an RSSI measurement, methods have been proposed for the estimation of the speed of a mobile user which are based on the received field strength variation. Such finding is important for the handover between a DECT cell and another one of the GSM system when the mobile user moves quickly in relatively small cells.

25 **Object of the invention**

The object of the present invention is to overcome the above-mentioned problems and limitations, and in particular to propose a better method and a device for the selection of the most suitable antenna. Advantageously the method according to the invention allows also obtaining an estimation of the speed of the mobile user.

30 **Summary of the invention**

The present invention achieves these objects by means of a method with the features listed in claim 1 and by means of a device having the features listed in claim 10.

Additional features which are belived to be novel are set forth with particularity in the

appended claims.

According to the method of the invention, a series of measurements is carried out during the reception of the useful signal which does not overcome the adopted criterion to define the correlation of the slots and which will be declared as lost (so-called  
5 "SYNC FAILURE").

Now it will be illustrated the SYNC FAILURE concept. The DECT standard presents an organised frame, so that the receiver, at the moment of receiving a useful signal from one radio channel, has to:

1. reconstruct first of all the phase timings (bit and slot) from the preamble field (16 +  
10 16 bits),
2. and then demodulate the informative content (field A and field B).

Some of these operations may fail, because of the different factors influencing the propagation such as link budget, selective fading, Doppler effect, etc.

In particular there is a key function for the detection of the transmitted signal (said  
15 "Burst") from a radio channel, which can be identified in the correlation operation. Every RFP (and, of course, every PP) is therefore provided with a correlation circuit based on criteria which can be manufactured dependant. When the found out correlation value does not overcome these criterions then the received burst is declared lost (SYNC FAILURE).

20 According to the previous technique no other operation will be carried out on these lost bursts except the one of counting them as such (WER calculation, Word Error Rate), taking for granted in general, that the content cannot be recovered and that the selected antenna by which they have been received, was the worst one.

Applying instead the innovative method the present invention is based on, that is  
25 executing some measurements on the received bursts having caused the sync failure, it turns out to be possible to achieve the following advantages:

- the measures are not destructive for the useful signal as they are carried out on unusable slots;
- it is possible to carry out in a very short time the measures related to the different  
30 antennas so that the selection of the most suitable antenna can be done in due time;
- measures carried out in the lost slots are more significant because they take place together with a criticality in progress that has to be improved and resolved.

#### **Brief description of the drawings**

The invention will now be described in a more detailed way with reference to a

preferred but not limiting embodiment illustrated with reference to the enclosed drawings, in which:

Fig. 1, already described, shows the network architecture of a DECT system;

Fig. 2, already described, shows the frame structure of the illustrated DECT system;

Fig. 3, already described, shows the multiframe structure of the DECT system;

Fig. 4 shows a flow chart of the antenna selection method according to the invention.

The method according to the invention foresees that in the case of missed correlation all available antennas will be scanned sequentially carrying out a certain number K of cycles.

The number K of cycles depends on the minimum duration of the measurement on each single antenna, on the minimum antenna switching time and on the number of available antennas according to the following relation:

$$K = (420 * 868000 - X - Y) / (N * T_a + (N-1) * T_c)$$

where:

"420" is the number of bits in a time slot

"868000" is the bit time duration [ $\mu$ S]

"K" is the number of measurement cycles on the slot

"N" is the number of antennas

" $T_a$ " is the measurement time [ $\mu$ S] on the single antenna

" $T_c$ " is the switching time [ $\mu$ S] among the antennas

"X" is the inferior limit [ $\mu$ S] of the correlation time window

"Y" is the superior limit [ $\mu$ S] of the correlation time window

During said scanning period the RSSI values from the different antennas are measured, and therefore for each slot a table of the following type is collected:

CYCLE 1

ANT 1     RSSI= [ ] dBm

ANT 2     RSSI= [ ] dBm

.....

ANT N     RSSI= [ ] dBm]

$T_a$  = [ ]  $\mu$ s

$T_c$  = [ ]  $\mu$ s

AMENDED SHEET



## CYCLE 2

ANT 1      RSSI= [ ] dBm

ANT 2      RSSI= [ ] dBm

5      .....

ANT N      RSSI= [ ] dBm

Ta = [ ]  $\mu$ sTc = [ ]  $\mu$ s

.....

10

## CYCLE K

ANT 1      RSSI= [ ] dBm

ANT 2      RSSI= [ ] dBm

.....

15      ANT N      RSSI= [ ] dBm

Ta = [ ]  $\mu$ sTc = [ ]  $\mu$ s

Referring to Fig. 4, the method foresees the following steps:

20      Step 1: verify if the power variability of each antenna in the period of one slot is comprised in a preset range, for example  $\pm 3$  dBm.

Step 2: in the affirmative case, that is in stationary slot conditions, step 2 is started off to check if the power variability among the different antennas is comprised in a predetermined range, for example  $\pm 3$  dBm.

25      In the negative case, according to the type of antenna(s), which has caused such result, the choice is carried out (antenna(s) selection). More precisely, it will be selected that antenna which turns out to be the best regarding the detected RSSI (i.e. which shows the major and stable RSSI value).

Step 3: In the affirmative case, always at step 2, at step 3 a counter J(J=J+1) is  
30      increased, and at

Step 4: it will be stated, if the J counter value is superior to a fixed threshold (J>Thre.?); in the negative case the table will be reconsidered, while in the positive case at

Step 5: the table of the channels will be updated, and at

Step 6: the bearer handover will be required as the diversity does not turn out to be

efficient.

If the answer to step 1 is negative, that is if the power variability of each antenna during the period of a slot is high, then at

Step 7: a counter I will be increased ( $I=I+1$ ), and at

- 5 Step 8: it will be checked, if the I counter value overcomes a preset threshold ( $I > \text{Tresh. ?}$ ): in the negative case the table will be considered again, while in the positive case at

- Step 9: the mode handover will be required to the PP, as this means that the portable set is moving with an appreciable speed compared to the dimensions of the cell and  
10 therefore defining frequent handover creates problems to the serving system. For this reason if the PP is of the dual band type, that is able either to operate according to the GSM and the DECT standard, then the PP will be forced to hand-over towards the GSM system, its speed being reasonably compatible with the operating modalities of such a system and incompatible with the operating modalities of the DECT system.

- 15 The measures correlated to the innovative method according to the present invention supply therefore the following additional information:

#### 1) SWITCH OR INSTANT DIVERSITY

- 1) confirmation of the hypothesis that the used antenna is the worst (the hypothesis  
20 is based on the fact that the burst has not been received correctly).

- 2) Efficiency of the antenna diversity. In the case the measurements carried out on different antennas are comparable, that is contained in a range of  $+ / - 3 \text{ dB}$  and still the transmitted burst is not correctly detected (i.e. it has been lost) it is preferable not to insist on the use of the diversity, but it is preferable to suggest the PP to carry out a  
25 handover.

- 3) The event with similar measurements could be stored as a statistic counter to value the entity of the improvement introduced by the antenna diversity.

- A further advantage of this improvement consists in the fact that the extracted information is much more significant and efficient the more critical the situation of the  
30 channel and therefore the number of lost bursts are.

However nothing prohibits, in the case of finding possible anomalies, to extend these measurements outside of the lost bursts, sacrificing some correctly detected bursts or using other techniques to save the situation.

#### 2) SELECTION IN A SECTORIAL ARRAY

During a slot it is possible to value the power received from all antennas of the array, selecting the one with the major received power.

The advantages in this case are the following:

1. the measurements are carried out in a very short time and therefore they provide  
5 homogeneous information;
2. time consuming researches by attempt are avoided on antennas which reception turns out to be of bad quality;
3. estimation of the mobile speed.

Regarding the estimation of the speed, this can happen according to two modalities.

- 10 When the duration of the slot is comparable to the duration of the fading phenomenon, the slot fading conditions can be considered as stationary for the mobile speed below 10-15 [KM] / h.

But when the duration of the slot is too short compared to the fading phenomenon, the measurement is used as a trigger for other measurements.

- 15 Although a particular embodiment of the present invention has been described, it should be understood that the present invention is not limited thereto since other embodiments may be made by those skilled in the art without departing from the scope thereof. It is thus contemplated that the present invention encompasses any and all such embodiments covered by the following claims.

20

## CLAIMS

1. Method for the antenna selection in the fixed radio station (RFP) of a digital telecommunication system of the TDMA type, in which the signals are arranged in frames with a preset duration, and in each frame a predetermined number of time slots are assigned,  
said system including a plurality of radiomobile units (PP), and said fixed radio station (RFP), which at its turn includes correlation means, i.e. means adapted to perform the correlation operation at the moment of receiving of each time slot of the frame of said digital signal and means adapted to select one antenna, or a plurality of antennas, connected to them, and in particular:

- N antennas, with  $N \geq 1$ , for the management in space diversity and/or polarisation of the received signal, and/or
- an array of sectorial antennas, and/or
- an array of phased antennas,

characterised in that it comprises the following operational steps:

- a) verifying if the correlation operation carried out by said correlation means has been successful or not;
- b) in the case of failed correlation, sequential scanning within the same time slot of all available antennas and repeatedly measuring the received field strength or RSSI for a predetermined number K of measuring cycles;
- c) compiling a table containing for each antenna K measured RSSI values;
- d) verifying if the power variability of each antenna during the period of a time slot is included in a first preset range;
- e) in the affirmative case, verifying if the power variability between the different antennas stays in a second preset range comparing the data contained in the above-mentioned table;
- f) if the verification according to the previous step e) has a negative result, starting the selection of the antenna/s applying a criterion which takes into consideration the result of the comparison according to the previous step e).

2. Method according to claim 1, characterised in that said fixed radio station (RFP) includes at least a pair of space diversity antennas and in that the criterion according to step f) consists in the choice of the antenna which received field strength value turns out to be the highest one among all measured ones.

3. Method according to claim 1, characterised in that said fixed radio station (RFP) includes at least an array of sectorial antennas, and in that the criterion according to step f) consists in the choice of the antenna, which received field strength value turns out to be the highest one among all measured ones.

5        4. Method according to claim 1, characterised in that, if said verification phase according to step d) does not have an affirmative result, it comprises a further step to verify if such value overcomes a first preset threshold, and if not the cycle of operations will be repeated starting from the above-mentioned step b).

10       5. Method according to claim 4, characterised in that, if the radiomobile unit is of the dual mode type and if said further checking step to verify if said value is higher than said first preset threshold has a positive result, also the operational modality change request of the radiomobile unit will be started off (mode handover).

15       6. Method according to claim 1, characterised by fact that, if said verification phase according to step e) points out an overcoming of said second preset range, a further step is foreseen to verify if the power difference among the different antennas overcomes a second preset threshold, and in the negative case, the cycle of operations will be repeated starting from the above-mentioned step b).

20       7. Method according to claim 6, characterised in that, if said further step to verify if the difference of power among the different antennas overcomes a second preset threshold has a positive result, then also the request to change the bearer in use will be started off (bearer handover).

8. Method according to claim 1, characterised in that said number K of measuring cycles is calculated according to the following formula:

$$K = (420 * 868000 - X - Y) / (N * T_a + (N-1) * T_c)$$

25       where:

- "420" is the number of bits in a time slot;
- "868000" is the bit time duration [ $\mu$ S];
- "N" is the number of antennas;
- "Ta" is the measurement time [ $\mu$ S] on the single antenna;
- 30 - "Tc" is the switching time [ $\mu$ S] among the antennas;
- "X" is the inferior limit [ $\mu$ S] of the correlation time window;
- "Y" is the superior limit [ $\mu$ S] of the correlation time window.

9. Method according to the previous claims, characterised in that said first and second preset ranges are equal to  $\pm 3$  dBm.

10. Device for the antenna selection in the fixed radio station (RFP) of a digital telecommunication system of the TDMA type, in which the signals are arranged in frames with a predetermined duration, and in each frame a predetermined number of time slots will be assigned, said system including a plurality of radiomobile units (PP) and said fixed station (RFP) which at its turn includes means adapted to carry out the correlation operation at the moment of receiving each time slot of the frame of said digital signal and means for the selection of one antenna or of a plurality of antennas to which are connected:
- N antennas for the management in space diversity and/or polarisation of the received signal, and/or
  - an array of sectorial antennas, and/or
  - a phased array of antennas,
- characterised in that it operates according to the method disclosed in claim 1.

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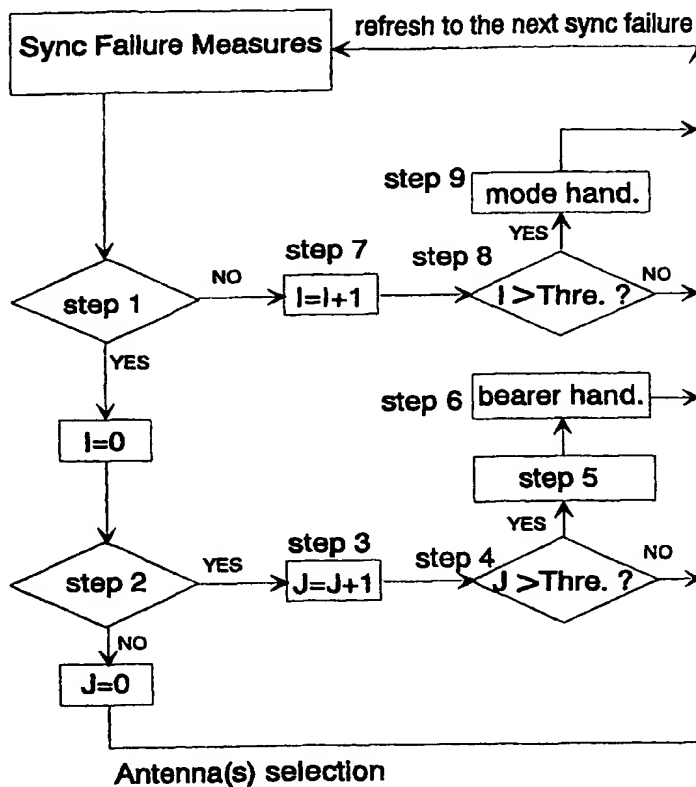
## INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

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(54) Title: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR THE ANTENNA SELECTION IN A DIGITAL TELECOMMUNICATION SYSTEM

## (57) Abstract

Method for antenna selection in the fixed radio station (RFP) of a TDMA digital telecommunication system set up by a plurality of radiomobile units (PP) and said fixed radio station (RFP) which at its turn includes means adapted to carry out the correlation operation at the moment of receiving each time slot of the frame of said digital signal and means for the selection on one antenna or of a plurality of antennas to which are connected. The method including the steps of: a) verifying if the correlation operation carried out has been successful; b) in the case of missed correlation, scanning in sequences of all available antennas and measuring the received field strength or RSSI; c) compiling of a table containing for each antenna the measured RSSI value; d) verifying if the power variability of the detected signal at each antenna within the time slot period stays in a prefixed range; e) in the affirmative case, verifying if the power variability among the different antennas stays in a second prefixed range comparing the data contained in the aforesaid table; f) if verification of previous step has a negative result, starting the selection of the antenna/s and using a criterion that takes into account the result of comparison mentioned in the previous step.



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**"Method and Device for the Antenna Selection in a Digital Telecommunication System»**

**5 Technical Field**

The present invention relates to digital telecommunication systems according to Time Division Multiple Access (TDMA), and in particular, but not exclusively, relates to systems operating according the DECT standard (Digital Enhanced Cordless Telecommunications).

10 More precisely, the present invention relates to a method and a device for the selection of an antenna used in the fixed radio station of such system.

In the following description reference will be made in particular to a DECT system, without that this should be limited thereto. The invention can be generally applied in systems where the connection between two transceiver units (a radiomobile or portable unit or PP (Portable Part according to the DECT terminology) and a fixed radio station or RFP (Radio Fixed Part) is realized.

15 As already known, the DECT system includes a plurality of fixed radio stations distributed in a way to cover the interested areas and controlled by a centralised unit (CCFP, Central Control Fixed Part), and connected to a switching network which may be the public one of the private type (PABX), and of portable units linking up via radio with the fixed radio stations, and being able to communicate with each other and with others fixed users connected to the telephone network. The links may be of the voice type or they may enable the exchange of data occupying the equivalent of one or more voice "channels".

25 At first, an exemplary DECT network architecture is schematically illustrated in Fig. 1.

It comprises groupings of  $h$  (in the example of the figure  $h = 4$ ) fixed radio stations RFP (Radio Fixed Part) preferably connected to coppers (in the example 3 coppers) set up by connection or dorsal lines  $L$  through drop/insert devices  $DI$ . Without departing from the scope of the present invention, it turns obviously out to be possible to connect in a star-shaped way each RFP to the CCFP eliminating the aforesaid connection lines, and therefore obviously also the Drop/Insert devices  $DI$ .

30 Each RFP can manage via radio a certain number of PPs, which generally are mobile.

The coppers end up at a TRAnScoder unit TRAS, and the latter is for example connected to the public network PSTN (Public Switching Telephone Network) through a Central Control Fixed Part (CCFP) associated to a switching network or a dedicated switching module MEP.

- 5 Regarding the vocal signals, digital 64 Kbit/s channels typically set up the interface between the CCFP and the accessed network. To the CCFP unit a set of transcoders TRAS is associated providing for the conversion of the PCM codification (Pulse Code Modulation) on 8 bits used at the PSTN side into an ADPCM (Adaptive Differential Pulse Code Modulation) codification on four bits used at the DECT side. In this way two  
10 32 Kbit/s channels can be mapped onto each 64 Kbit/s channel.

The 2,048 Mbit/s (bi-directional) connection link connecting the CCFP to the different RFPs supports therefore 48 voice channels plus a predetermined number of synchronisation and signalling channels.

- The area covered by a fixed radio station or cell is generally rather reduced, arriving  
15 also to a radio coverage radius of tens or hundreds of metres. Typical applications of the personal telephony systems can be found in industrial plants where they may substitute the installation of a cabled network, in shopping centres or urban centres where they may advantageously substitute public telephone boxes and so on.

- The telecommunication network for personal telephony is of the digital type. The  
20 radio access technology is of the type FDMA (Frequency Division Multiple Access) - TDMA (Time Division Multiple Access) - TDD (Time Division Duplex).

- The system is of the TDD type as the transmission and reception direction are time divided. More precisely, as illustrated with reference to Fig. 2, the time frame interval of 10 milliseconds is divided into two halves: usually during the first 5 ms (i.e. in the first  
25 half frame) the fixed radio station transmits and the portables receive, and in the following 5 ms (i.e. in the second half frame) the contrary happens. Each half frame is set up by 12 time channels or time slots, hereafter for the sake of brevity also referred to as "slot", (from which it comes that DECT is a TDMA system, set up by 420 (or in some cases by 424) bits. The slots are transmitted or received using 10 (or more)  
30 different frequencies (from where it results that DECT is an FDMA system as well, which allows to provide to the system up to 120 (or more) radio channels (where a radio channel is identified by the pair (time slot + frequency).

The DECT multiframe is illustrated in Fig.3 and has a duration of 160 ms. so that it includes 16 frames of 10 msec each as described in Fig. 2

For further details on the DECT system please refer to the specifications established by the European Telecommunications Standards Institute, briefly ETSI (Ref. EN 300 175 specification).

In a DECT system the fixed radio station or RFP has an antenna system which may have different configurations:

- N antennas (with N equal to at least 2) for management in space diversity and/or polarisation of the received signal;
- a set of sectorial antennas, that is a system in which a plurality of antennas is connected to each RFP where every antenna of the set lightens just a portion (or sector) of the entire cell or of the RFP coverage area (usually trisection antennas are defined which implies therefore the use of antennas with a coverage angle of 120°);
- a set of phased antennas suitable to set up a radiation diagram with variable direction and gain.

Moreover the RFP includes a selection device or appliance among the antennas enabling the selection of the most suitable one that is that antenna which assures the better quality for the detected signal.

In fact the transmitted signal, especially in an urban environment, may be affected by the so-called fading phenomenon constituted by amplitude and phase variations of the electromagnetic field or of the power of the detected signal due to changeable propagation conditions. Because of such a phenomenon, in a predetermined instant the signal can be received with major intensity from a predetermined antenna (or from a predetermined first group of antennas) while in a following instant this signal can be received with major intensity from a second antenna (or from another predetermined second group of antennas).

Therefore mainly due to this phenomenon, it is necessary to choose time by time the antenna (or the antennas group) supplying the best signal.

#### **Background Art**

According to the known art the antenna selection appliance is able to manage an antenna switching according to two or more methods.

In particular the switching may occur based on a switching method, called "time switch diversity" or it can be based on a switching method called "instant diversity".

The switching method "time switch diversity" is based on the concept for which, in case the reception of a signal from an antenna (or antenna group) has to be considered

failed (according to a preset failure criterion), then in the next received frame a different antenna (or antenna group) is selected at the RFP (see also Fig. 2). The predetermined failure criterion may be of the proprietary type and could be based for example on the estimation of the received field strength or RSSI (Received Signal Strength Indicator) or, more generally on the estimation of the perceived signal quality.

This switching method "time switch diversity" presents the disadvantage that reaction can be slow in respect to the aforesaid fading phenomenon that should be hindered.

The already known switching method named "instant diversity" is instead realised by a fast sampler able to carry out an RSSI measurement in a short time period equal to 2-3  $\mu$ s with the possibility to switch the antenna in a comparable amount of time. For example, always according to the present state of the art it is possible to sample a signal at the beginning of the slot carrying out a measurement on the antenna 1 for about 3  $\mu$ s, to change the antenna in a very short time, equal to about 1 - 2  $\mu$ s and then sample the received signal on the other antenna.

The «instant diversity» switching method has the advantage compared to «Time switch diversity» method that makes it possible to understand during the first 10  $\mu$ s which is the best antenna and which will be selected to detect the remaining part of the signal.

However it is necessary to note that the «instant diversity» method presents certain critical aspects from the implementation point of view, because such operations are carried out at the beginning of the slot, sacrificing a few of those bits (i.e. the preamble bits) useful for the timing reconstruction and which do not bring any user data. On the other hand it cannot be carried out during the slot, because the antenna switching introduces a discontinuity in the demodulation of the slot which would make lose part of its informative content.

There has also been the proposal to use an extended preamble consisting in the repetition, at the beginning of the slot, of the preamble field in order to dedicate the first part of this field to the selection of the antenna and the second part to the specific function for which such a preamble has been foreseen by ETSI standard (like f.i. the timing reconstruction and alignment between the two communicating radio transceivers. However it is necessary to point out that if such a solution to extend preamble field makes it possible to solve the above-mentioned problems, it also defines the turning up of a further drawback consisting in the shortening of the inter slot

guard periods, which means major interference among DECT systems which are not synchronised each other (e.g. because they do not refer to the same operator) and the shortening of the propagation range.

In the case of a system that foresees sectorial antennas it is also known to carry out the selection of antennas in such array. More precisely, at the moment when the connection on the antenna in use turns out to be degraded, a switching operation can be carried out on other antennas to see if the connection quality improved.

But such solution includes however the drawback that the choice requires to realise an RSSI measuring on a slot for each antenna of the array, and therefore it may last rather a lot of slots; too many bursts could be sacrificed because of having tried some antennas not suitable for this link. Moreover the measurements are heterogeneous with each other as they are carried out at different instants.

Furthermore it is necessary to point out that, as there is the possibility to carry out an RSSI measurement, methods have been proposed for the estimation of the speed of a mobile user which are based on the received field strength variation. Such finding is important for the handover between a DECT cell and another one of the GSM system when the mobile user moves quickly in relatively small cells.

#### **Object of the invention**

The object of the present invention is to overcome the above-mentioned problems and limitations, and in particular to propose a better method and a device for the selection of the most suitable antenna. Advantageously the method according to the invention allows also obtaining an estimation of the speed of the mobile user.

#### **Summary of the invention**

The present invention achieves these objects by means of a method with the features listed in claim 1 and by means of a device having the features listed in claim 10.

Additional features which are belived to be novel are set forth with particularity in the appended claims.

According to the method of the invention, a series of measurements is carried out during the reception of the useful signal which does not overcome the adopted criterion to define the correlation of the slots and which will be declared as lost (so-called «SYNC FAILURE»).

Now it will be illustrated the SYNC FAILURE concept. The DECT standard presents an organised frame, so that the receiver, at the moment of receiving a useful signal

from one radio channel, has to:

- 1 reconstruct first of all the phase timings (bit and slot) from the preamble field (16 + 16 bits),
- 2 and then demodulate the informative content (field A and field B).

5 Some of these operations may fail, because of the different factors influencing the propagation such as link budget, selective fading, Doppler effect, etc.

In particular there is a key function for the detection of the transmitted signal (said «Burst») from a radio channel, which can be identified in the correlation operation. Every RFP (and, of course, every PP) is therefore provided with a correlation circuit  
10 based on criteria which can be manufactured dependant. When the found out correlation value does not overcome these criterions then the received burst is declared lost (SYNC FAILURE).

According to the previous technique no other operation will be carried out on these lost bursts except the one of counting them as such (WER calculation, Word Error  
15 Rate), taking for granted in general, that the content cannot be recovered and that the selected antenna by which they have been received, was the worst one.

Applying instead the innovative method the present invention is based on, that is executing some measurements on the received bursts having caused the sync failure, it turns out to be possible to achieve the following advantages:

- 20 · the measures are not destructive for the useful signal as they are carried out on unusable slots;
- it is possible to carry out in a very short time the measures related to the different antennas so that the selection of the most suitable antenna can be done in due time;
- measures carried out in the lost slots are more significant because they take place  
25 together with a criticality in progress that has to be improved and resolved.

#### **Brief description of the drawings**

The invention will now be described in a more detailed way with reference to a preferred but not limiting embodiment illustrated with reference to the enclosed drawings, in which:

- 30 Fig. 1, already described, shows the network architecture of a DECT system;
- Fig. 2, already described, shows the frame structure of the illustrated DECT system;
- Fig. 3, already described, shows the multiframe structure of the DECT system;
- Fig. 4 shows a flow chart of the antenna selection method according to the

invention.

The method according to the invention foresees that in the case of missed correlation all available antennas will be scanned sequentially carrying out a certain number K of cycles.

- 5       The number K of cycles depends on the minimum duration of the measurement on each single antenna, on the minimum antenna switching time and on the number of available antennas according to the following relation:

$$K = (420 * 868000 - X - Y) / (N * T_a + (N-1) * T_c)$$

where:

- 10       «420» is the number of bits in a time slot  
       «868000» is the bit time duration [μS]  
       «K» is the number of measurement cycles on the slot  
       «N» is the number of antennas  
       «T<sub>a</sub>» is the measurement time [μS] on the single antenna  
       15       «T<sub>c</sub>» is the switching time [μS] among the antennas  
       «X» is the inferior limit [μS] of the correlation time window  
       «Y» is the superior limit [μS] of the correlation time window

During said scanning period the RSSI values from the different antennas are measured, and therefore for each slot a table of the following type is collected:

20

CYCLE 1

ANT 1       RSSI= [ ] dBm

ANT 2       RSSI= [ ] dBm

.....

25       ANT N       RSSI= [ ] dBm]

T<sub>a</sub> = [ ] μs

T<sub>c</sub> = [ ] μs

CYCLE 2

30       ANT 1       RSSI= [ ] dBm

ANT 2       RSSI= [ ] dBm

.....

ANT N       RSSI= [ ] dBm

T<sub>a</sub> = [ ] μs

Tc = [ ]  $\mu$ s

.....

CYCLE K

5 ANT 1 RSSI= [ ] dBm  
 ANT 2 RSSI= [ ] dBm  
 .....  
 ANT N RSSI= [ ] dBm  
 Ta = [ ]  $\mu$ s  
 10 Tc = [ ]  $\mu$ s

Referring to Fig. 4, the method foresees the following steps:

Step 1: verify if the power variability of each antenna in the period of one slot is comprised in a preset range, for example  $\pm 3$  dBm.

15 Step 2: in the affirmative case, that is in stationary slot conditions, step 2 is started off to check if the power variability among the different antennas is comprised in a predetermined range, for example  $\pm 3$  dBm.

In the negative case, according to the type of antenna(s), which has caused such result, the choice is carried out (antenna(s) selection). More precisely, it will be  
 20 selected that antenna which turns out to be the best regarding the detected RSSI (i.e. which shows the major and stable RSSI value).

Step 3: In the affirmative case, always at step 2, at step 3 a counter J(J=J+1) is increased, and at

Step 4: it will be stated, if the J counter value is superior to a fixed threshold (J>Thre.);  
 25 in the negative case the table will be reconsidered, while in the positive case at

Step 5: the table of the channels will be updated, and at

Step 6: the bearer handover will be required as the diversity does not turn out to be efficient.

If the answer to step 1 is negative, that is if the power variability of each antenna  
 30 during the period of a slot is high, then at

Step 7: a counter I will be increased (I=I+1), and at

Step 8: it will be checked, if the I counter value overcomes a preset threshold (I>Tresh.); in the negative case the table will be considered again, while in the positive case at



Step 9: the mode handover will be required to the PP, as this means that the portable set is moving with an appreciable speed compared to the dimensions of the cell and therefore defining frequent handover creates problems to the serving system. For this reason if the PP is of the dual band type, that is able either to operate according to the GSM and the DECT standard, then the PP will be forced to hand-over towards the GSM system, its speed being reasonably compatible with the operating modalities of such a system and incompatible with the operating modalities of the DECT system.

The measures correlated to the innovative method according to the present invention supply therefore the following additional information:

10

#### 1) SWITCH OR INSTANT DIVERSITY

1) confirmation of the hypothesis that the used antenna is the worst (the hypothesis is based on the fact that the burst has not been received correctly).

2) Efficiency of the antenna diversity. In the case the measurements carried out on different antennas are comparable, that is contained in a range of  $+ / - 3$  dB) and still the transmitted burst is not correctly detected (i.e. it has been lost) it is preferable not to insist on the use of the diversity, but it is preferable to suggest the PP to carry out a handover.

3) The event with similar measurements could be stored as a statistic counter to value the entity of the improvement introduced by the antenna diversity.

A further advantage of this improvement consists in the fact that the extracted information is much more significant and efficient the more critical the situation of the channel and therefore the number of lost bursts are.

However nothing prohibits, in the case of finding possible anomalies, to extend these measurements outside of the lost bursts, sacrificing some correctly detected bursts or using other techniques to save the situation.

#### 2) SELECTION IN A SECTORIAL ARRAY

During a slot it is possible to value the power received from all antennas of the array, selecting the one with the major received power.

The advantages in this case are the following:

1 the measurements are carried out in a very short time and therefore they provide homogeneous information;

2 time consuming researches by attempt are avoided on antennas which reception turns out to be of bad quality;

3 estimation of the mobile speed.

Regarding the estimation of the speed, this can happen according to two modalities.

When the duration of the slot is comparable to the duration of the fading phenomenon, the slot fading conditions can be considered as stationary for the mobile speed below

5 10-15 [KM] / h.

But when the duration of the slot is too short compared to the fading phenomenon, the measurement is used as a trigger for other measurements.

Although a particular embodiment of the present invention has been described, it should be understood that the present invention is not limited thereto since other  
10 embodiments may be made by those skilled in the art without departing from the scope thereof. It is thus contemplated that the present invention encompasses any and all such embodiments covered by the following claims.

**CLAIMS**

1. Method for the antenna selection in the fixed radio station (RFP) of a digital telecommunication system of the TDMA type, in which the signals are arranged in frames with a preset duration, and in each frame a predetermined number of time slots are assigned,
- 5 said system including a plurality of radiomobile units (PP), and said fixed radio station (RFP), which at its turn includes correlation means, i.e. means adapted to perform the correlation operation at the moment of receiving of each time slot of the frame of said digital signal and means adapted to select one antenna, or a plurality of antennas, connected to them, and in particular:
- N antennas, with  $N \geq 1$ , for the management in space diversity and/or polarisation of the received signal, and/or
  - an array of sectorial antennas, and/or
  - 15 • an array of phased antennas,
- characterised in that it foresees the following operational steps:
- a) verifying if the correlation operation carried out by said correlation means has been successful or not;
  - b) in the case of failed correlation, sequential scanning within the same time slot of all available antennas and measuring the received field strength or RSSI;
  - 20 c) compiling a table containing for each antenna the measured RSSI value;
  - d) verifying if the power variability of each antenna during the period of a time slot is included in a first preset range;
  - e) in the affirmative case, verifying if the power variability between the different antennas stays in a second preset range comparing the data contained in the above-mentioned table;
  - 25 f) if the verification according to the previous step e) has a negative result, starting the selection of the antenna/s applying a criterion which takes into consideration the result of the comparison according to the previous step e).
- 30 2. Method according to claim 1, characterised in that said fixed radio station (RFP) includes at least a pair of space diversity antennas and in that the criterion according to step f) consists in the choice of the antenna which received field strength value turns out to be the highest one among all measured ones.

3. Method according to claim 1, characterised in that said fixed radio station

(RFP) includes at least an array of sectorial antennas, and in that the criterion according to step f) consists in the choice of the antenna, which received field strength value turns out to be the highest one among all measured ones.

4. Method according to claim 1, characterised in that, if said verification phase according to step d) does not have an affirmative result, it foresees a further step to verify if such value overcomes a first preset threshold, and if not the cycle of operations will be repeated starting from the above-mentioned step b).

5. Method according to claim 4, characterised in that, if the radiomobile unit is of the dual mode type and if said further checking step to verify if said value is higher than said first preset threshold has a positive result, also the operational modality change request of the radiomobile unit will be started off (mode handover).

6. Method according to claim 1, characterised by fact that, if said verification phase according to step e) points out an overcoming of said second preset range, a further step is foreseen to verify if the power difference among the different antennas overcomes a second preset threshold, and in the negative case, the cycle of operations will be repeated starting from the above-mentioned step b).

7. Method according to claim 6, characterised in that, if said further step to verify if the difference of power among the different antennas overcomes a second preset threshold has a positive result, then also the request to change the bearer in use will be started off (bearer handover).

8. Method according to claim 1, characterised in that in said step b) a predetermined number K of measuring cycles will be carried out, K being equal to:

$$K = (420 * 868000 - X - Y) / (N * T_a + (N - 1) * T_c)$$

where:

- «420» is the number of bits in a time slot;
- «868000» is the bit time duration [μS];
- «N» is the number of antennas;
- «T<sub>a</sub>» is the measurement time [μS] on the single antenna;
- «T<sub>c</sub>» is the switching time [μS] among the antennas;
- «X» is the inferior limit [μS] of the correlation time window;
- «Y» is the superior limit [μS] of the correlation time window.

9. Method according to the previous claims, characterised in that said first and second preset ranges are equal to ± 3 dBm.

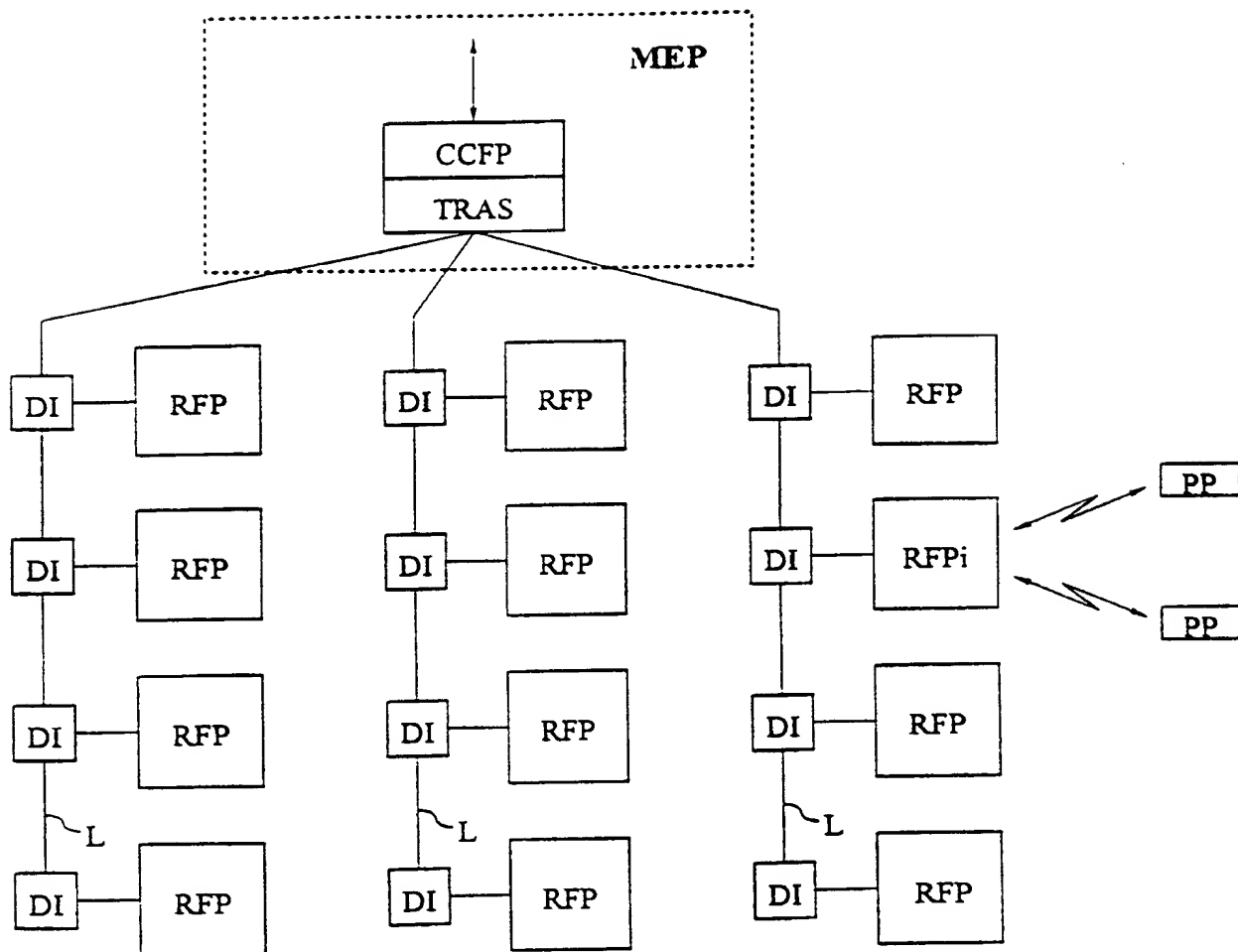
10. Device for the antenna selection in the fixed radio station (RFP) of a digital

telecommunication system of the TDMA type, in which the signals are arranged in frames with a predetermined duration, and in each frame a predetermined number of time slots will be assigned. said system including a plurality of radiomobile units (PP) and said fixed station (RFP) which at its turn includes means adapted to carry out the correlation operation at the moment of receiving each time slot of the frame of said digital signal and means for the selection of one antenna or of a plurality of antennas to which are connected:

- N antennas for the management in space diversity and/or polarisation of the received signal, and/or
- 10 • an array of sectorial antennas, and/or
- a phased array of antennas,

characterised in that it operates according to the method disclosed in claim 1.

1/3

*Fig. 1*

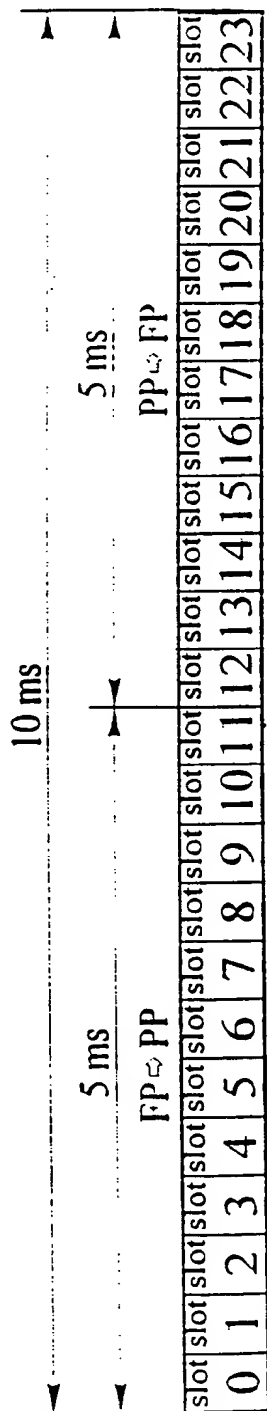


Fig. 2

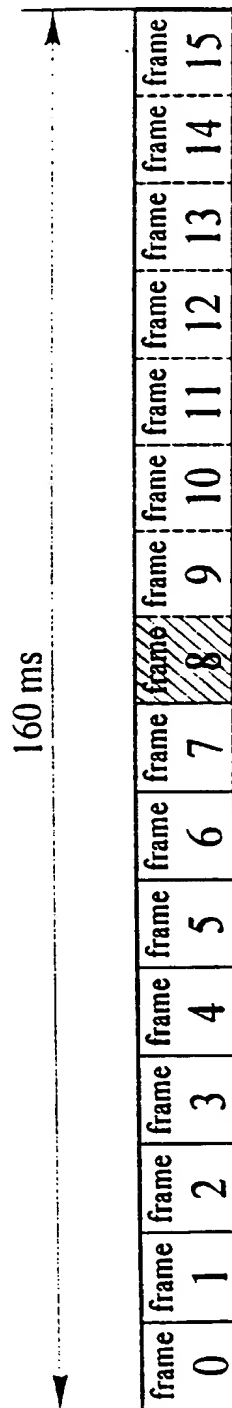


Fig. 3

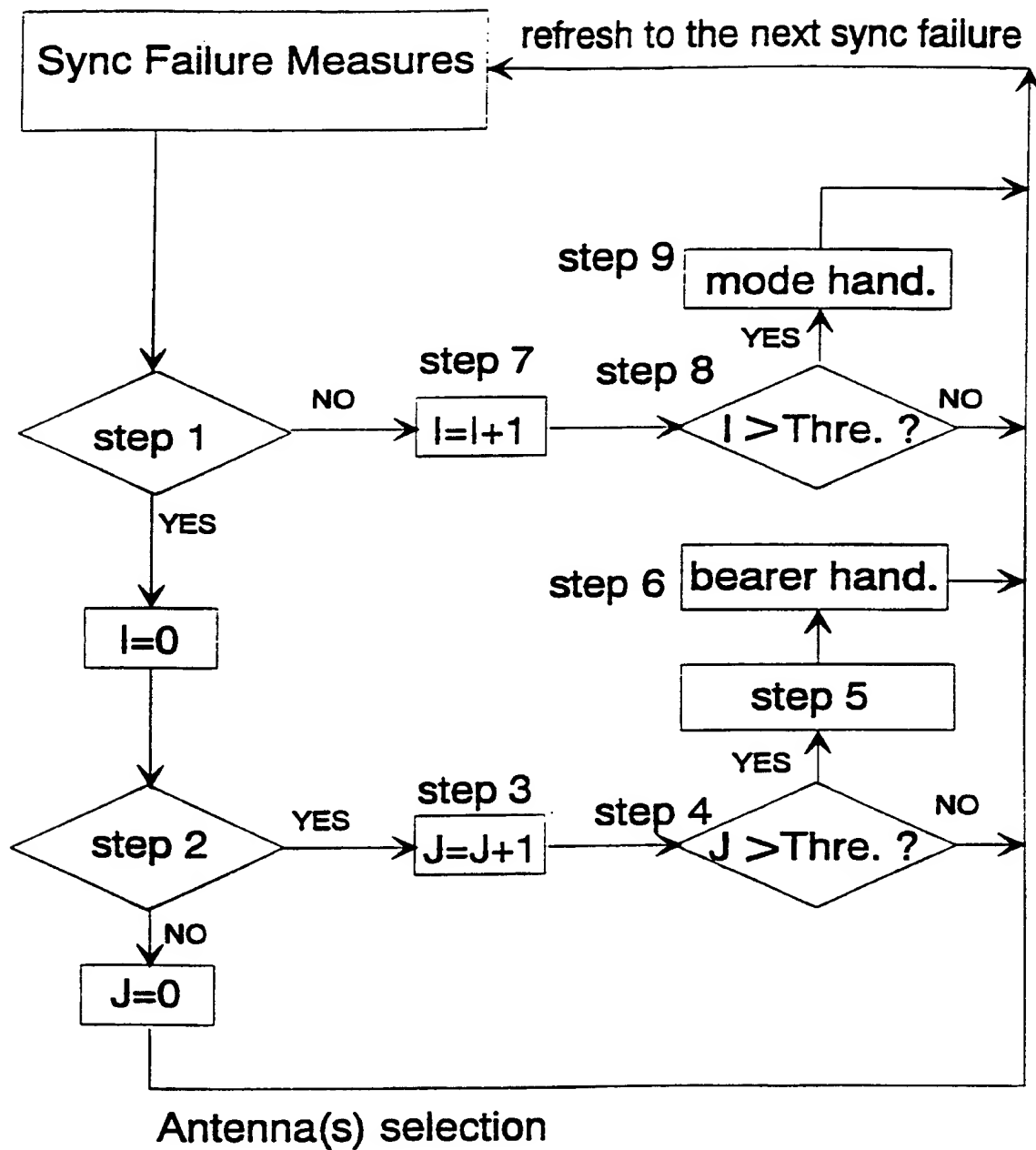


Fig. 4



# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/EP 99/05326

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
IPC 7 H04B7/08 H04Q7/38

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

**B. FIELDS SEARCHED**

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
IPC 7 H04B H04Q

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	WO 96 08089 A (NOKIA TELECOMMUNICATIONS OY ;MOGENSEN PREBEN (DK)) 14 March 1996 (1996-03-14) page 3, line 11 -page 4, line 4 page 5, line 1 - line 3 page 5, line 21 - line 27 page 6, line 14 - line 25 ---	1.10
A	US 5 459 873 A (MOORE MORRIS ET AL) 17 October 1995 (1995-10-17) column 2, line 24 - line 26 column 2, line 36 - line 39 column 3, line 44 - line 56 column 4, line 12 - line 21 claims 1-3 claim 6 figure 4 --- -/--	1,10

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

\* Special categories of cited documents :

- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
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- "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
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- "Z" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

4 November 1999

Date of mailing of the international search report

18/11/1999

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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/EP 99/05326

## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	<p>SAFAVI S ET AL: "PREDETECTION QUALITY DIVERSITY SCHEME FOR DECT OUTDOOR APPLICATIONS" ELECTRONICS LETTERS, vol. 32, no. 11, 23 May 1996 (1996-05-23), pages 966-968, XP000599112 ISSN: 0013-5194 page 967, left-hand column, line 1 - line 5 page 967, left-hand column, line 27 - line 41 page 967, right-hand column, line 11 -page 968, left-hand column, line 4 figure 1</p> <p>-----</p>	1,10

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT, LP 99/05326

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
WO 9608089	A	14-03-1996	AU 3347495 A	27-03-1996
US 5459873	A	17-10-1995	NONE	